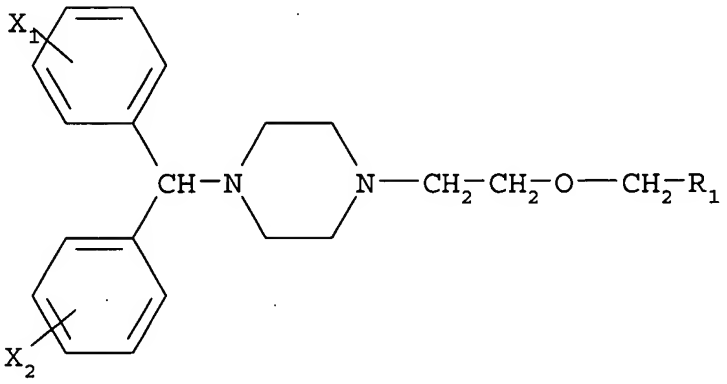
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A chewing gum pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- a core comprising a first formulation, which contains an active compound selected from 2-[4-(diphenylmethyl)-1-piperazinyl]-acetic acids and their amides having the general formula I

Formula I



wherein

R_1 is a –COOH group or a $–CONH_2$ group, and

X_1 and X_2, taken separately, each represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a straight-chain or branched C_1-C_4 alkoxy group or a trifluoromethyl group as well as their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, geometrical isomers, enantiomers, diastereomers and mixtures thereof, and which first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300 in a molar ratio between the polyol and active compound of formula I above 10, and

additionally containing a gum base; and

- a coating comprising a second formulation, which contains one or more solid polyol(s) with a molecular weight of less than 3000 and is free of a compound of formula I, wherein ~~a polyol in~~ the second formulation contains a first polyol which is a polysaccharide and wherein the second formulation contains a second polyol selected from the group consisting of mannitol, sorbitol and xylitol in an amount sufficient to improve the palatability of the pharmaceutical composition.

2. **(Original)** A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 10, with the exception of lactose.

3. **(Original)** A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 5.

4. **(Cancelled)**

5. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 5, with the exception of lactose.

6. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950, with the exception of lactose.

7. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 1 wherein the formulations are prepared in the form of powders, granules, solutions or suspensions.

8. **(Previously Presented)** A composition according to claim 1 wherein a polyol in the second formulation is mannitol.

9. **(Cancelled)**

10. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the formulations further contains an alkalinizing agent.

11. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 10 wherein the alkalinizing agent is sodium citrate.

12. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation further contains one or more excipients selected from cyclodextrins, colloidal anhydrous silica, microcristalline cellulose, magnesium stearate, flavors or colorants.

13. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation further contains non-polyol sweetening agents such as acesulfame K, aspartame, saccharine, saccharine sodium or cyclamate.

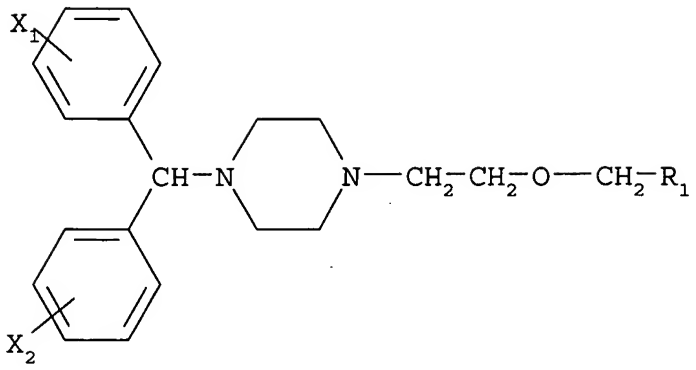
14. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 1 wherein the active compound in the first formulation is cetirizine dihydrochloride, levocetirizine dihydrochloride or efletirizine dihydrochloride.

15-22. (Cancelled)

23. **(Currently Amended)** A chewing gum pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- a coating comprising a first formulation, which contains an active compound selected from 2-[4-(diphenylmethyl)-1-piperazinyl]-acetic acids and their amides having the general formula I

Formula I



wherein

R_1 is a –COOH group or a $–CONH_2$ group, and

X_1 and X_2, taken separately, each represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a straight-chain or branched C_1-C_4 alkoxy group or a trifluoromethyl group as well as their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, geometrical isomers, enantiomers, diastereomers and mixtures thereof, and which first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300 in a molar ratio between the polyol and active compound of formula I above 10; and

- a core comprising a second formulation, which contains one or more solid polyol(s) with a molecular weight of less than 3000 and is free of a compound of formula I, wherein ~~a polyol in~~ the second formulation contains a first polyol which is a polysaccharide, wherein the second formulation contains a second polyol selected from the group consisting of mannitol, sorbitol and xylitol in an amount sufficient to improve the palatability of the pharmaceutical composition, and additionally containing a gum base.

24. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 10, with the exception of lactose.

25. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 5.

26. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 5, with the exception of lactose.

27. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950, with the exception of lactose.

28. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 23 wherein the formulations are prepared in the form of powders, granules, solutions or suspensions.

29. **(Previously Presented)** A composition according to claim 23 wherein a polyol in the second formulation is mannitol.

30. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 23 wherein at least one of the formulations further contains an alkalinizing agent.

31. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 30 wherein the alkalinizing agent is sodium citrate.

32. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation further contains one or more excipients selected from cyclodextrins, colloidal anhydrous silica, microcristalline cellulose, magnesium stearate, flavors or colorants.

33. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation further contains non-polyol sweetening agents such as acesulfame K, aspartame, saccharine, saccharine sodium or cyclamate.

34. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 23 wherein the active compound in the first formulation is cetirizine dihydrochloride, levocetirizine dihydrochloride or efletirizine dihydrochloride.

35. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 12 wherein the first formulation further contains a cyclodextrin.

36. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 35 wherein the cyclodextrin is beta cyclodextrin.

37. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 32 wherein the first formulation further contains a cyclodextrin.

38. **(Previously presented)** A composition according to claim 37 wherein the cyclodextrin is beta cyclodextrin.